

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Barry N. Kreiswirth et al.

Attorney Docket 19124.0002

Application No. 09/656,084

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: September 6, 2000

Examiner: M. Sheinberg

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR TRACKING AND CONTROLLING INFECTIONS

Improper

## **Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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In response to the office action issued January 27, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

## In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 6, 9 and 37 without prejudice and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of [performing real-time infection control] <u>tracking spread of infectious bacteria</u>, comprising:

obtaining a sample of a [microorganism] bacterium;

sequencing a first region of [a] deoxyribonucleic acid from the [microorganism]

bacterium sample, the first region comprising a plurality of repeating sequences of nucleotides;

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